

risks to defend the freedom we cherish today, suffering close to 9,000 casualties. As Winston Churchill said of his British troops, 'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.'

Today, as we remember the invasion of Normandy as the turning point of World War II, we commemorate what the defeat of Hitler's army symbolized to the United States and to the world, a landmark in the struggle for Liberty and Democracy.

June 6, 1944, marked the beginning of the end of Hitler's ambition for world domination.

In honoring the anniversary of this democratic touchstone, we acknowledge the legacy of America's historic charge—wars fought for truly just causes. We etch this day into our Nation's profound memory so that we may convey to new generations the respect that liberty commands and the gratitude we owe to courage.

#### A TRIBUTE TO PAUL AZEVEDO

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 2004*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Paul Azevedo, a resident of Pacifica, California, located in my Congressional district, who passed away on May 9th. Mr. Azevedo was a popular columnist at the Pacifica Tribune, a local paper, a historian of his beloved town, and above all, a family man.

Mr. Azevedo was born in Sonoma County, California on March 20, 1931. He served in the U.S. Army and earned a degree from San Jose State University. Mr. Azevedo moved with his wife Lydia to picturesque Pacifica 41 years ago where they raised four children, Mike, Rena, Martin and Joane, in this picturesque Peninsula town.

Mr. Azevedo joined the Pacifica Tribune in 1966 as an ad salesman and proceeded to hold almost every imaginable job at the paper before eventually settling into his role as a columnist. Known as "The Reactor", Mr. Azevedo eloquently opined on all matters that affected the Peninsula. Sometimes he merely related historical anecdotes that he thought relevant to the present day. A bit of a maverick, he did not always write the conventional column, but inspired praise nonetheless for engaging his readers on a variety of diverse and interesting subjects.

Mr. Speaker, no one knew more about the Pacifica and no details escaped his steel trap of a mind. In the last "Reactor" column, his family recalled all of the places around town that he loved with no area left out.

As one would expect of a vocal columnist, Mr. Azevedo had strong opinions about politics, however despite those opinions his overriding desire was to insure that his beloved democracy was upheld. That is why in addition to writing his column, he also worked in the local election's office, proofreading election material in English, Chinese and Spanish and although not fluent in Chinese and Spanish, he spotted errors in the materials that fluent speakers overlooked by finding inconsistencies in the text. Mr. Azevedo also looked to preserve the natural beauty of Pacifica as a member of the Open Space Committee.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Azevedo was as much apart of Pacifica as the fog that rolls in off the

ocean and the waves that crash on his beloved beaches. Both his personality and his column will be sorely missed. I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him, and all that he meant to family, friends, and neighbors on the Peninsula.

#### IN HONOR OF THOMAS REEFE

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 2004*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Q. Reeve, whose lifelong dedication to the Santa Cruz community consists of over 35 years of volunteerism and leadership with local organizations. Tom will be retiring from his current position as Executive Director of Leadership Santa Cruz County where he has diligently worked to advance the interests of the organization for the betterment of the community for over 13 years.

Tom first became involved in local politics while attending UC Berkeley in the 1960's. He was soon recognized by many as a community organizer and anti-war activist. His education was interrupted by military service while he served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam. After a distinguished tour, Tom returned to receive his PhD in African History in 1974. Following the receipt of his degree, Tom taught History at the University of North Carolina. After a fruitful career as a professor, Tom accepted a position at the University of California Santa Cruz as Director of Career Services where he worked until 1993.

Beyond his extensive professional experience, Tom has been an integral part of the local Santa Cruz community as well. A member of the first graduating class of Leadership Santa Cruz in 1986, Tom has remained loyal to the organization since its inception. Due to his innovative and sustainable proposals, Leadership Santa Cruz has blossomed into a much relied upon organization within our community. Under his tutelage, over 600 members of our community, including members of my district staff, have been guided through an extensive course intended to outline the various facets that make up Santa Cruz County.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Tom on his much deserved retirement and thank him for his contribution to our society. Tom has continuously gone above and beyond the roles bestowed upon him and has left in his wake a legacy of community leadership. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. DAVID SICKLER

### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. David Sickler, a lifelong champion for working families.

Mr. Sickler serves as the Director of the Southern California State Building and Construction Trades Council. Under his leadership, Mr. Sickler has successfully advanced the goals of the Council and has proven to be one of the most talented and effective union

organizers in the country. In particular, he is at the forefront of the national movement to promote and protect the rights of immigrant workers.

For over a decade, Mr. Sickler has served as Chair of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) Labor Center's Advisory Committee. His dynamic and compassionate leadership on the Committee make him an excellent role model for people of all ages who seek social justice in their communities.

The celebration of the 40th anniversary of the UCLA Labor Center is a testament to the hard work and tireless leadership of David Sickler and so many others who have dedicated their lives to advancing the causes of working families in this nation. I salute David Sickler, and other great labor leaders such as Dolores Huerta, Reverend James Lawson, and Tom Rankin, for their commitment and determination to bring social justice to our country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the body to recognize labor leaders of the past, the UCLA Labor Center, and all union organizers throughout America.

#### TRIBUTE TO ARMY RESERVE SPECIALIST MICHAEL J. WIESEMANN

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 8, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pride and respect that I pay tribute to Army Reserve Specialist Michael J. Wiesemann for his bravery in the field of battle and his willingness to fight for his country. Specialist Wiesemann lost his life Saturday, May 29, 2004, in a non-combat related injury, while bravely serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for the United States Army. His sacrifice will be remembered at funeral services on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, by a community that has been struck hard by the devastating loss of one of its own.

Specialist Wiesemann, 20, was born in Valparaiso, Indiana. He later moved to North Judson, Indiana, a small town with a population of fifteen hundred, and graduated from North Judson-San Pierre High School in 2002. He was known as a great artist with a witty sense of humor. After high school, Specialist Wiesemann decided to join the Army Reserves with the hope that it would assist him financially with college, help him fulfill his dream of becoming an artist, and allow him to find himself through the discipline and order that it provides.

Michael's sacrifice for his country is a tribute to his dedication and willingness to put others before himself. Those who knew Michael best describe him as a kind, fun-loving person, who always wanted to help others. He ultimately gave his life while protecting his fellow Americans. His courage and heroism will always be remembered, and his sacrifice will forever live in the hearts and minds of those for whom he fought.

Specialist Wiesemann is survived by his mother, Karen Bubac, his stepfather, Robert Bubac, his father, Duwain Wilson, his brother, Travis Bubac, his half-sister, Tori Bubac, and